

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 231917Z APR 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0014

S E C R E T USUN 1317

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PO, PINS

SUBJ: PLANS OF AMBASSADOR VEIGA-SIMAO

REF: USUN 1144, LISBON 2132

1. VEIGA-SIMAO HAS SHOWED AMBASSADOR BENNETT COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM PORTUGUESE FOREIGN OFFICE AUTHORIZING HIM TO RETURN TO LISBON FOR CONSULTATIONS. VEIGA-SIMAO SAID IN CONNECTION HIS RESIGNATION REPORTED USUN 1096 GOP HAS NOW ASKED HIM TO STAY IN NEW YORK POST FOR A MONTH OR TWO LONGER. HE PLANS RETURN TO LISBON EARLY NEXT WEEK FOR BRIEF CONSULTATION AFTER WHICH HE WOULD COME BACK TO NEW YORK.

2. BENNETT DISCUSSED FRANKLY WITH VEIGA-SIMAO NEGATIVE POSSIBILITIES IN EVENT HIS RETURN TO PORTUGAL UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS PER TWO REFTELS. VEIGA-SIMAO LISTENED SOBERLY, BUT SAID HE BELIEVED HE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO GET IN AND OUT OF LISBON WITHOUT UNTOWARD INCIDENTS. HE PLANS TO ARRIVE QUIETLY AT LISBON AIRPORT WITHOUT GIVING GOVERNMENT ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS TRAVEL SCHEDULE AND TO GO ABOUT HIS BUSINESS I LISBON WITHOUT DRAWING ATTENTION TO HIMSELF. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING HE WOULD GIVE NO PRESS INTERVIEWS OR MAKE NAY PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHILE THERE. HE TAKES POSITION THAT GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO WANT HIM TO GO AND COME WITHOUT PROBLEMS SINCE

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THEY WANT HIM TO EXTEND HIS REPRESENTATION HERE. HE

ACKNOWLEDGED POINT THAT AIRPORT MAY WELL BE UNDER WATCH
WITH RESPECT TO ARRIVALS AND THAT ELEMENTS IN PRESS
AND MEDIA MIGHT ATTACK HIM EVEN THOUGH GOVERNMENT ITSELF
DID NOT HAVE THAT IN MIND. HE SAID, HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT
HE HAD TO TAKE THE RISKS WHICH HE RECOGNIZED WERE INVOLVED.

3. ON CONSIDERATION WEIGHING HEAVILY WITH HIM IS THAT
HE HAS THREE DAUGHTERS IN LISBON AND FEELS THE NEED TO TALK
WITH THEM. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR U.S. INTEREST
AND AGREED TO KEEP IN TOUCH. MEANWHILE HE IS CONTINUING HIS
ACTIVE SEARCH FOR EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE PORTUGAL.
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Message Attributes

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